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PATENT

TECH CENTER 1600/2900 Attorney Docket No.: A-57004-4/RFT/JJD

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

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Signed(

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In satisfaction of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant wishes to draw the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the references cited on the accompanying form PTO-1449. Since copies of the references were provided either by the Applicant or the Examiner in the following related U.S. Applications; Serial No.09/099,902, filed June 18, 1998; Serial No. 08/710,676, filed September



Serial No.: 09/432,820 Filed: November 2, 1999

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23, 1996 (now patent no. 5,770,719); Serial No. 08/192,632, filed February 7, 1994 (now patent no. 5,559,011); and Serial No. 07/906,395, filed June 29, 1992 (now patent no. 5,330,754), upon which the instant application relies for its priority date, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), no copies of these references are enclosed.

None of the foregoing references are believed to disclose the invention as claimed. Nothing herein shall constitute an admission concerning the contents of any of the cited references, nor shall the inclusion of a reference herein be considered an admission that the reference constitutes prior art against the invention claimed in the above-identified application. Submission of the present document shall not be construed as an admission that a search has been made or that better art does not exist.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (Our Order No. A-57004-4/RFT/JJD).

An additional copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

FLEHR, HOHBACH, TEST, ALBRITTON & HERBERT

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